

A NEW SPECIES OF *LOTUS* SECT. *HOSACKIA* (FABACEAE) FROM NUEVO LEON, MEXICO

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ABSTRACT

A new species of *Lotus*, *L. hintoniorum* B.L. Turner, is described from southern Nuevo León, México. It belongs to the section *Hosackia* where it apparently has no especially close relatives.

KEY WORDS: Fabaceae, *Lotus*, *Hosackia*, México

Identification of miscellaneous legumes from northeastern México has revealed the following novelty.

Lotus hintoniorum B.L. Turner, *sp. nov.* TYPE: MEXICO. Nuevo León: Mpio. Zaragoza, Cerro El Viejo, 2200 m, oak and pine woods, 7 Jul 1992, *Hinton et al.* 72118 (HOLOTYPE: TEX!).

Herbae strictae 30-40 cm altae. Folia imparipinnata foliolis 7-11. Stipulae lanceolatae persistentes. Flores 2-5 umbellis axillaribus, in pedunculis 10-15 cm longis. Legumina stricta 4.0-4.5 cm longa, 0.2-0.3 cm lata; semina in quoque legumine 12-16.

Stiffly erect perennial herbs 30-40 cm high. Stems green, striate, sparsely pilose. Midstem leaves mostly 4-6 cm long, 2.5-3.5 cm across, odd-pinnate with 7-11 leaflets, the leaflets elliptic to obovate, mostly 1.2-1.6 cm long, 0.6-0.8 cm wide, sparsely appressed-pilose. Stipules herbaceous, lanceolate, 4-6 mm long, ca. 2 mm wide, persistent, the apices not deciduous. Flowers 2-5, arranged in axillary umbels, the peduncles mostly 10-15 cm long, the ultimate pedicels strigose, 1-2 mm long. Bracts at base of pedicels 0.5-1.5 mm long, narrowly lanceolate. Calyces 6-7 mm long, 2.5-3.5 mm wide, sparsely pilose, the lobes ca. 2 mm long. Corollas reportedly "pale red" or "purple", 10-14 mm long, the claws extending beyond the calyx with age; banner broadly ovate 7-8

mm high, 5-7 mm wide, the claws ca. 6 mm long; wings ca. 12 mm long, 2-3 mm wide, the claws ca. 6 mm long; keels ca. 11 mm long, connivent apically. Anthers yellow, ca. 0.5 mm long. Stigma capitate. Pods stiffly erect, mostly 4.0-4.5 cm long, 0.2-0.3 cm wide, dehiscent at maturity, the valves somewhat twisting. Seeds 12-16 per pod, the seeds maculate, kidney-shaped, 2.0-2.5 mm long, ca. 1.5 mm wide.

ADDITIONAL SPECIMEN EXAMINED: MEXICO. Nuevo León: Mpio. Zaragoza, 2300 m, roadside mixed forests, 23 Jun 1993, *Hinton et al. 22962* (TEX).

This markedly distinct species belongs to the section *Hosackia* (sensu Isely 1981) where it appears to have no especially close relatives. Its habit, large leaves and more numerous flowers on much longer peduncles readily distinguish it from the widespread relatively common North American *Lotus oroboides* (H.B.K.) Ottley.

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LITERATURE CITED

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